

# Mouth of the River

Issue 1

Mouth of the River is a publication of the ORHS Journalism Class

October 26, 1992

## ORHS Bonfire Burns...Twice

by Quincy Souza

On October 9th, the student body worked together to put the bonfire back into the Oyster River tradition, despite the fact that it was lit the night before.

On Thursday, October 8th, apparent vandals set the student council's bonfire in flames. According to Ms. Winterbottom, Amanda McAuley and Chris Hansen at the last minute worked together with her, Mrs. Abbott, and other volunteers to get gloves, wood, and other needed materials in order to build it back up again. Chris Hansen, a senior student council representative, comments, "Ms. Winterbottom was the only one in charge; so, she gave her okay and the go ahead to try and reconstruct

everything."

When Donaldo LaFerriere was asked about the vandalism he commented, "The people who did it, do not respect the amount of time and planning that the student council put into it."

Junior Jen Garvey added, "I am disgusted, it was a really immature thing to do."

Although there is no investigation through the police or the school at this time due to so little evidence, Mrs. Brown comments, "I have heard rumors and have even been given a couple of names."

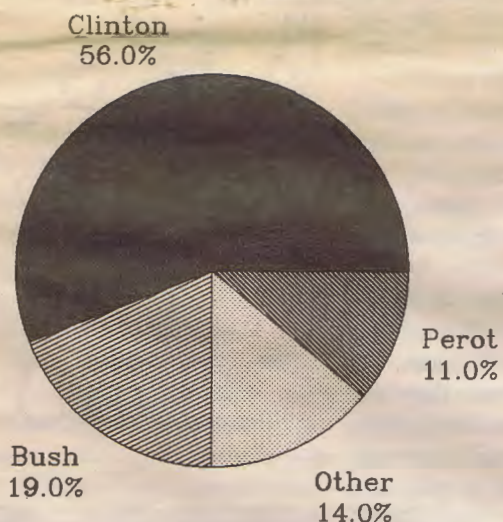
Despite Thursday night's events, the actual bonfire still happened on Friday, October 9th, from 5-7 pm. According to the students it was an overall success. Senior Becky Bucar commented, "It brought

Bonfire  
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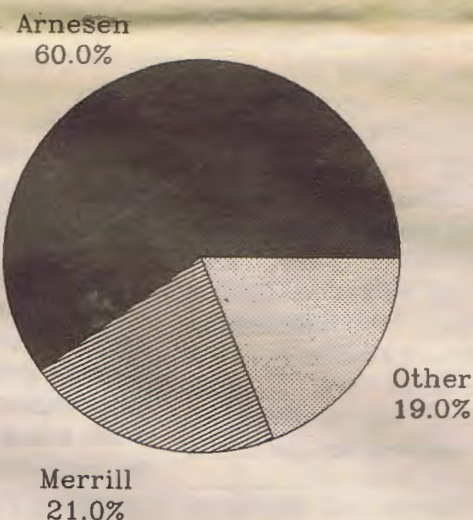


The rebuilding crew of the bonfire including Mike Hoffman, Mike Duclos, and Greg Dardia of the Durham Fire Department. (Courtesy of Foster's Daily Democrat)

## Election at O.R.



Presidential



Gubernatorial

## Clinton & Arnesen Get Student Vote

by Phil Nazzaro

The Oyster River High school students showed their support for Bill Clinton when they cast 56% of their vote in favor of him for President in the "Mouth of the River" mock-election held on October 13.

The Governor of Arkansas and Democratic nominee for president won the election by a margin that voter Jeff Cushman referred to as "sizeable". President George Bush received 19% of the vote while Independent candidate H. Ross Perot received 11%, falling behind the 'other' total

which received 14% of the student vote.

A number of students were interviewed after the election was held. Student Eric Harter cast his ballot for President Bush because of what he sees as his 'presidential experience'. "He (Bush) has had 8 years as vice president and 4 years as president. That is more than can be said for either Perot or Clinton."

Student Michael Northrop said that the Bush votes should

Vote  
Cont. on p.9

## School Construction Goes to Defeat

by Kim Goodman

Construction plans for additions and renovations on Oyster River High School will not be decided upon until March of 1994.

On October 27th, the voters of the Oyster River School District will vote on a plan to build a new elementary school and renovate the Middle School. The proposal requires 2/3 of the voters approval. The increase of students per class in the elementary schools and the impact they are going to put on the middle and high schools in the future is the main reason behind the proposed construction. The main focus of the construction is being put on the elementary

school and junior high for the time being because they will be hit with the rising numbers first.

The high school wouldn't be hit hard with the rising numbers until the earliest, 1994. This is the reasoning behind delaying the vote on the high school until March of that year. Another reason for not voting on the high school proposal now is that with the elementary, middle, and high school all on one ballot, the project can be too massive and overwhelming for the voters. Administrators felt there would be a better chance of the proposals on the high school passing if they were separate million dollars," said O.R.H.S. principal Ann Brown. "The

cost hasn't really been figured completely yet because everything is just a proposal at this point," Brown said. "They're working on estimates, and I think they're trying to hold off a little bit on even making real substantial estimates on the high school until they see the fates of the elementary and middle school projects."

If the plans are approved and the construction occurs, the staff at O.R.H.S. is currently looking at exploring new ideas with the curriculum and at the chance for groups of teachers to work together. Brown said "They're currently a group of teachers and administrators working on the opportunities of a new curriculum by meeting after

school to read and study and plan and visit."

The main reasoning behind the construction is because of the increase in numbers in the high school. The second reason was the opportunity it would offer to bring around some new changes but not a whole new system. Brown said, "I think it's a good opportunity, and it's a good time for us to look at twenty-first century kinds of stuff since what we're building is what we would use for that century." Brown reflected that, "I think it would be really negligent on our part not to at least try to forecast what we think education is going to look like in the next fifty years so that we can provide a house for that education."

The population growth is expected to be extreme by the time it hits the high school. According to projection by the Long-Range Planning Committee, there are currently five hundred students at ORHS. In three or four years it is expected to grow to seven hundred and fifty to eight hundred students, therefore, the need for expansion will be a necessity.

The project is much too big to finish over the summer of 1994 if proposals are passed. Although if the bulk of the project can be finished over the summer, then the hassles that might occur over the school year could be

School Const.  
Cont. to Pg.9



## New Service Program Enacted

by Joe Burke

Mr. Jim Dickson from the Service Master company has been hired to head facilities maintenance. The program is designed to increase the effectiveness of the schools maintenance and custodial departments. The program fits into the budget for the current year.

Service Master is a company based in Chicago. They concentrate on custodial and maintenance needs of institutions. The company invents chemicals and equipment that make cleaning quicker and easier. Mr. Dickson commented that Service Master makes "A science about making things clean."

Principal, Mrs. Brown cited, "A period of facilities growth, deferred maintenance issues, and recognition of the need for consolidated management services," as the reasons for the change to the Service Master system.

There are no net costs for the year to instate the program. The contract with Service Master is for five years. The cost of implementing Service Master is offset by cheaper cleaning products. Mr. Everngam commented that the first few years may show a slight increase in cost, however, in the long run the cost should level of or decrease. Mr.

Dickson said one of Service Master's selling points is "Do better with what you spend now."

Service Master has extensive computer program. All of the maintenance needs will be entered into the program. On

a monthly basis the preventative maintenance needs will be addressed. As corrective maintenance needs surface they will be entered into the computer. Each issue will be assigned a classification level, urgent, routine, or deferred. The classifications determine what needs to be done and in what order. Time will then be budgeted to complete the necessary work.

Mr. Dickson will try to be in each Oyster River building every day. He will also walk each building once a week. These walks will be with administrators to address new maintenance needs, problems, and to see work is being completed.

The maintenance and custodial personnel will go through training. This will consist of what materials are made of, new equipment, new cleaning chemicals, and many other issues. This will also change the way cleaning and repair is done. Also there will be inspections of work however "Inspection is a tool of training, not discipline," Mr. Dickson added.

Mr. Dickson mentioned one of the first needs that will be addressed is plumbing. This includes the hot water to the nurse's office, water to the bathroom faucets, and to the upstairs water fountain. Male students have commented that the boys bathrooms need soap and paper towel dispensers that work, as well.

In all Mrs. Brown, Mr. Dickson and Mr. Everngam felt positive that the joining with Service Master will be good for the school.

## New Teachers Join Faculty

by Josh Hardy

This year in ORHS we have six new teachers added on to the faculty. The new teachers are: Diane Angellini (Math), Wendy Batson (Spanish), Pam Lessard (ESL), Laura Parsons (Science), and Linda Stewart (English).

Prior to coming to Oyster River Linda Stewart taught British Literature, and Humanities at Manchester West. She is now taking place of Ms. Whitten for 1st semester who is on Sabbatical.

She comments, "I see the school as having an excellent staff/administration and a hard working, fun student community." She also said, "I like how the administration respects the faculty because that is very rare." She wants to look for a full-time, or a permanent substitute position teaching English.

Before coming to ORHS Pam Lessard was a chapter 1 reading tutor at



Mrs. Angellini  
Maplewood Elementary School in Somersworth. She thinks the students here are more motivated. Currently she is taking a course at Notre Dame College in Manchester, N.H.

by Aaron Tyler

Foreign students at Oyster River this year may not be a common sighting. Principal, Ms. Brown said due to problems in the past, few foreign students will be bringing their cultures to ORHS.

Though students and faculty agree that the foreign students are enjoyable and interesting to have, there are far less this year than in past years. "Fourteen foreign students last year added a heavy burden to us, the faculty," Ms. Brown commented. She said that the exchange students had too many individual needs and all of them couldn't be satisfied.

"The foreign students have also had hard times getting along because of difficulties in understanding and communicating." Kim Goodman noticed, "Most of them were very shy and tended

to group themselves together."

Another problem Ms. Brown commented on was the difference that the students faced between American and foreign schools. The foreign students themselves commented to her that they thought the school was "weird" and "too strict." She said that many complained about the fact that drinking and smoking weren't allowed. Sophomore, Jeff Farrell had an exchange student stay at his house one year and complained that the student's smoking got out of hand.

"They often were surprised because the work was too easy. European and especially the Asian education is higher, they say," Mrs. Brown also stated as a key fact. Sophomore Jay Belmore didn't feel that the foreign students were a problem. "I think it's good that they add some variety to the atmosphere at our school." He continued, "It's kind of hard to talk with

them though because they are so unfamiliar with American things." Ms. Brown said, "I wish more OR students would take an interest in going to other countries on exchange programs. I feel that its valuable to the individual to learn about other cultures."

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ORHS. She was a personnel consultant in Portsmouth. She also taught summer school in

Somersworth High School, and Spanish at Laconia High School.



Ms. Bridgham



## Smoking

Cont. from 5

The smell of smoke and the butts and ashes may have adverse effects on non-smokers. The greatest concern the community may have is that the school may seem to be condoning smoking by allowing students to smoke. "I think as an educational issue, they don't want to encourage kids to smoke. Kids are very impressionable and educators feel a responsibility to teach them about things that are bad for them," said Ms. Winterbottom.

If it is against school policy to smoke on school grounds, then why are teachers allowed to do it? Students who are over the age of 18 should be granted the same right to smoke as the faculty. The school could designate a supervised area outside the building for smoking. Students who are 18 would be allowed to use this area during lunch, and only when an administrator could accompany them. "It would be better than having to walk into the bathrooms that have cigarette smoke, butts, and ashes all over the place," commented Senior Todd Whitford. Since the smoking area would be supervised, it would not encourage students to smoke. The area would only appeal to students who are addicted to tobacco products. Junior Scott McGarrell summarized the feelings of many students and faculty by saying, "If people want to smoke and there is a designated smoking area, it shouldn't bother anyone else."

**BULLETIN:** The issue regarding senior memories has been resolved. Several seniors were turned down in their request to include Bible verses in the senior memories portion of the 1993 yearbook. The school administration was concerned that the passages might be offensive to others or otherwise inappropriate for the yearbook.

The matter was referred to legal counsel by the school board. One of the students, Peter Philbrick, also retained legal counsel on the matter. On Wednesday a representative from the superintendent's office informed the students that the passages would be allowed. The deadline for the the senior memories section of the yearbook is November 1.

## THERE'S MORE TO OYSTER RIVER THAN STUDYING.



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# OP/ED

## Rowdies: Why The Restrictions?

Support. Commitment. Enthusiasm. Elements high schools around the state hopelessly strive for, from their student body. Elements Oyster River has effectively diminished with the recent restrictions placed on the girls' volleyball teams fans, "The Rowdies."

Following a convincing win against arch rival Sommersworth, their coach reported The Foster's that the fans were rude, obnoxious, and demonstrated bad sportsmanship. The following game, the superintendent was in attendance. In what I perceive as bad judgment by "The Rowdies" they ran around the gym, out the doors, and in again through the back doors. However to judge our overall behavior in one game is unfair to them as a group. Following this game members of "The Rowdies" were called to a meeting with Mr. Nichols and Mrs. Brown. At this time we were told that we would no longer be able to do the pyramid, we would no longer be able to do cheers between points, and most importantly we would not be able to dress in "Rowdy" attire. Ripped jeans, cut-off shirts, and bandannas.

Granted, at times "The Rowdies" do show poor sportsmanship and are not always cheering in a positive manner. Not to use it as a n excuse, but, many times this cheering stems from being egged on by the opposing fans. Despite this, the coaching staff is genuinely pleased with the enthusiasm that they bring to the games. In addition team co-captain Stefany Shaheen showed her pleasure towards "The Rowdies" by commenting, "I get more fired up when the fans are there." She continued, "Playing at home isn't the same anymore."

"The Rowdies" were accused of stealing the show from the players. However, that is ridiculous. We were just doing everything we possibly could to get the team pumped up to play their matches. Anyway, if the higher ups in this school felt so strong about them stealing the show, why didn't they go directly to "the show." The players and coaches. But, no, this did not occur. In fact, "the show" was completely oblivious to what was going on until after the fact.

What was so surprising to me is the great necessity to ban the outfit of "The Rowdies." Who was it harming? Who was it embarrassing? NO ONE! Do you actually believe that there were people offended by the fact that "The Rowdies" were wearing jeans, cutoff shirt, and a bandanna? Oh, but the intimidation factor. Come on! This is high school, intimidating to me is someone walking around school carrying a gun. Are you sure that it isn't "The Rowdies" enormous build and physical presence that is doing the intimidating and not the clothes we wear?

Lastly, why punish an entire group because of the misbehavior of a few individuals. Handle the punishments on a one-to-one basis rather than restricting many for the stupidity of a few.

In my experience here at Oyster River I have witnessed that when people are told not to something or are restricted from doing things their anger prompts the individuals to take it one step further. It is my fear that in the near future that history may repeat itself in the near future.

Dear Editor,

I recently returned to ORHS after a one-year absence. I came back and the things I hear in the bathrooms and in the halls are completely baffling.

I hear people saying things like "This school sucks!" or "this place is like a jail", or "this school is snobby." I am sorry, but these people are so wrong. I came back to Oyster River because it has so much over other schools. I pay to attend this school.

Ironically, I was one of those people who used to criticize ORHS, then, because my family moved to Barrington from Lee, I ended up going to Dover High for my Junior year. It didn't take me long before I realized how I had taken ORHS for granted.

First of all, DHS is the

epitome of jail. You need a detailed pass to go anywhere between classes. Nobody is allowed in the halls, unless it is the three minute period they give you between classes. Tardies are instant detention, and if you get more than five tardies, you get in-school-suspension. If you have a free period you must go to the caf. or the library.

The snobs at Dover put our snobs to shame. The school is big, so everyone is just another face in the crowd. The teachers, for the most part, are horrible. They could not care less about you. The whole institution is a very cold place.

I just wish people could see what they have here. The faculty cares, and are so good at what they do. I really can not think of a better high school.



Freshman Orientation.

## Attitude Problem at OR?

Is Oyster River going to hell in a hand basket? Some might think so in light of all the recent problems OR has had. But are we really any worse off than we were before? It is starting to look that way.

Since the start of the 92-93 school year we have had vandals light the student council's bonfire one night early, arrests for a gun sale on school property, the police called to attention for smoking in the bathroom, a sink ripped off the wall in a bathroom, a fire alarm pulled falsely, several fights, and general problems with student attitudes. The administrators and faculty have complained about disruptive students in the hallway when they are not allowed to be there, food and drinks taken out of the cafeteria, and the sole public phone in the school broken several times by people feeding it with objects other than money.

Unfortunately, there is little the administration can do to solve any of these problems. Last week, homeroom was extended on two days so teachers and students could discuss the ways to remedy the situation. In the meeting, it was mentioned that it is being considered to take away certain privileges such as the Coke machine and restricting students to the cafeteria for their entire lunch. But, the problem with taking away privileges is that it won't make the students behave any better. They will get angry and frustrated and the school may find more things that they will have to deal with.

Is it the fault of the school that all these things are happening? I don't think that it has anything to do with the discipline practices of OR at all. The problem is the individual students that are involved in these things. The school can not shape the morals and ways of these students that come through this building every year. The school can't be expected to keep a watchful eye on every person at every minute of their existence of this institution.

Is their hope for our school? There have been moral fallouts before, and people pulled through. OR will make it through like anything else. But, in the meantime, I think the solution is not to punish the entire school for the wrong doings of some individuals. Deal with those who create the problems and leave the rest of the student body alone.

### Mouth of the River

#### A Publication of ORHS Journalism

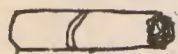
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# Smoking Section:



## yay or nay?

by Colleen O'Day

In the mid-eighties Oyster River High School abolished its designated smoking section because of the filth and vandalism surrounding the area. Since then new tobacco laws and health issues have been presented to the public, however, some teenagers still choose to smoke. These students are forced to spend the day suffering because smoking is prohibited on school grounds. Can a compromise be met between the school board, the law, and the students in order to arrive at an acceptable solution to this problem?

In the winter of 1991 the

New Hampshire Indoor Smoking Act went into effect. "The purpose of the act is to protect the health of the public by the regulation of smoking in enclosed work places and enclosed places accessible to the public." RSA 155:64. It applies to all organizations which are funded by federal, state, or local tax funds. Although smoking is prohibited in the high school by law, students are still smoking in the bathrooms during lunch and during their free periods. The Durham police rarely reprimand students for smoking. "It has been an issue of great concern as to whether courts and police should get involved," stated Captain

McGann. When a student is caught smoking on school grounds, the administration is forced to punish the student without the support of the law. Ms. Winterbottom indicated that this was unjust, since it is not the school's responsibility to do the policemen's job. "Hippocracy really bothers me. For that reason, if I had to go 51-49, I'd probably favor the smoking section," said Ms. Winterbottom.

Since Oyster River is funded by taxpayers money, the High School must reflect the values of the community. The school board supports community opinion by prohibiting a smoking section. They have many valid reasons for refusing to allow the high school to have a smoking area. "People would be concerned about what the area would look like," stated Mr. Perry.

# Open Campus: A Possibility?

by David Curtis & Joe Burke

Since the late-80s, Oyster River has been a closed campus high school. An open campus system is one where students are allowed to leave school grounds when they had free periods. Many students left to go home or downtown. What happened to the open campus idea? Why did it fail? Could Oyster River ever go back to an open campus again?

The 1987-1988 student handbook outlined that there was only a study for students failing a course or misbehaving. There was no limit to how many days a student could be absent. This indicates that many students abused the freedoms of an open campus, by not coming back to school after having a free period and leaving. Also Mrs. Winterbottom commented the class room attendance policy was not strictly enforced. Because of this students were often not punished for cutting a class.

What was it like under the open system? Teachers that were employed during the open system stated that some of the problems were; Students were coming and going as they please, many problems with drugs and alcohol use on

campus, drag racing during school hours, and not using time wisely. Also, parents of many students wanted the

system to be more stringent. Mr. Stoykovich, who was here under the old system, felt that our current system is a good compromise.

This system was then changed because a greater percentage of underclassmen were receiving warnings. This decision was easier because the numbers at the high school were decreasing. Administrators were also noticing the problem associated with a less structured system than what was applied at the middle school. Mr. Tappan described how students used the open campus system "Many of the students, especially Seniors, would show up in an altered condition or with a bad attitude. I don't remember open campus too fondly."

The current system places freshmen and sophomores in assigned studies during their free periods. Juniors and seniors, while they are not assigned studies, are not allowed to leave school grounds area. This system was enacted under Principal Geoffrey Jones and was

Campus Cont. on p.9

# Recycling at Oyster River

by Candy Olson

Is Oyster River High School expanding its horizons by recycling? Most of the high school community is taking responsibility in recycling. This includes staff as well as students. The other part would be the administration, who some consider are being hypocritical.

The Oyster River administration is patting us on the back and telling everyone what a good job they're doing by recycling and taking part in the welfare of our environment. Things may be getting accomplished, but they aren't exactly perfect. We still have styrofoam in our cafeteria. It is very hard to get around the usage of styrofoam. But, the cafe uses it for not only cups, but trays and soup bowls. If we are going to be a earth saving school, then why do we still have styrofoam? We may have Earth Day, plant trees, and recycle, but if replacing the styrofoam with cardboard would cost a little extra money then NO WAY!!

Saving the earth apparently escapes the minds of the administrators and those who are in charge of the cafeteria.

Out of all the people at OR, the students are the ones who have to use the styrofoam the most. The students are also the ones who hate it the most. Now, you would think that if kids get involved and express their opinions of being disgusted with the situation, then we would have a better chance with winning the war. Our concerns are just pushed aside. Are the opinions and concerns of the majority of the school not important? If it wasn't for the students then they wouldn't have a school.

Student, Cheryl Ellison said "If we're going to recycle then we should go all the way." How can we go all the way with an administration that isn't being a very big help? "Why don't we have recycling bins that by all the trash cans?" If there were bins by all the trash cans then we would probably find a larger amount of cans being recycled. People sometimes don't want to walk

all the way down to the canteen to throw a can away.

Students in the past have tried to make our school fully recyclable. In the past few years, Oyster River has developed an environmental group. The group is called S.E.A.L. (Student Environmental Action League). So, if you want to help change our recycling attitude, get involved. Remember, Rome wasn't built in a day. It will take effort.

# Horoscopes: Check Your Fate

by Seth DeForest and Owen Bruder

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Your love life will end suddenly. Look out for big red trucks, red is not your color. Lock your car weight-lifting thieves are on the loose. You are compatible with Gemini. **TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) Things are starting to look up. Don't work with paper shredders, it could be hazardous to your health. Dawn has come. Don't forget

to walk the dog and eat lots of brussel sprouts. You are compatible with Virgo.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Green is your color. Ladies are in the mood for little things. Don't mess with Aires. Some guys be on the lookout for younger petite girls who have a craving for jello. You are compatible with Taurus but don't tango with the bull. **CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Don't eat seafood for awhile because you will swell up and choke on a lobster claw. Follow the doctors orders no matter what he says. You will have a quick relationship with Pisces.

**LEO** (July 23 to Aug. 22) Do you bruise easily? Check on that. Not so bright brunettes are on the loose and love to tango in the night. You will lose a good friend only to gain another.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 to Sep. 22) Better lose it soon or it will get to you. You will soon find your inner strength so use it to your advantage. Hair Club for Men is always looking for new members. You will hook up with a long time enemy.

**LIBRA** (Sep. 23 to Oct. 22) Follow your dog to the old man behind the barn, he will bring you a pocket full of wealth. Be careful of women in black they can turn your life in the wrong direction. You will find that a Leo is more than a friend.

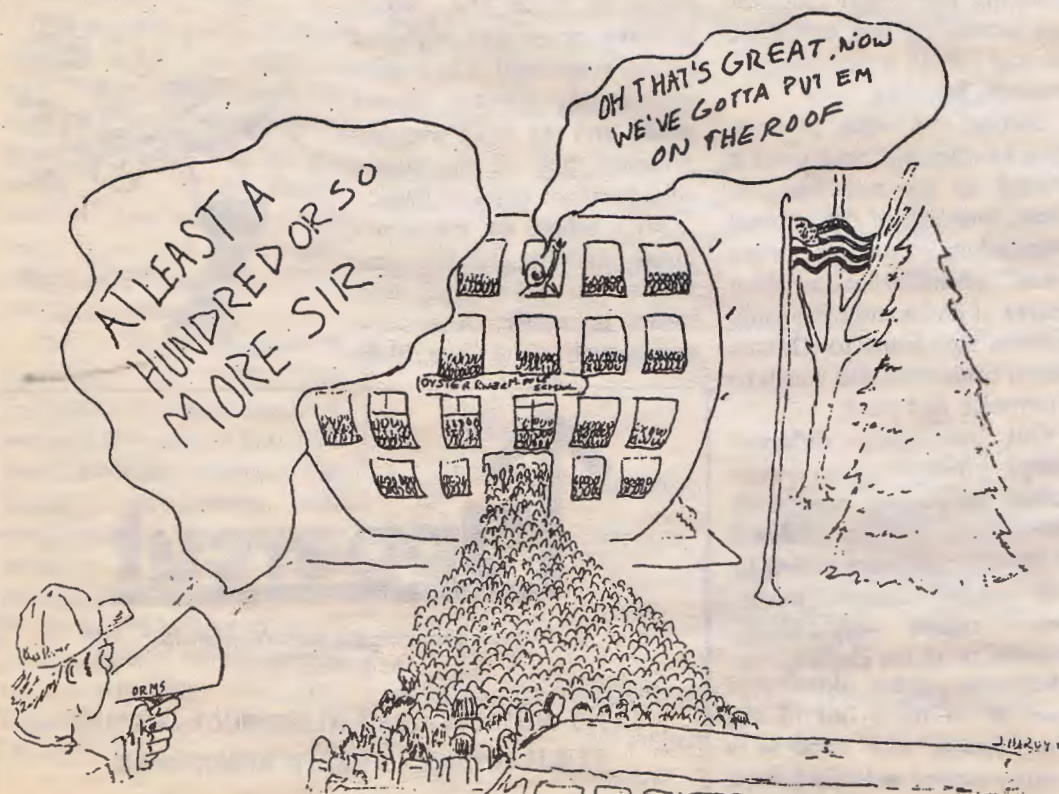
**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Always trust your first instincts, second guessing yourself will create problems. You will find that big green toads will bring you good luck. You will be greatly attracted to a Libra this month.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You will encounter a man wearing obscene and distracting clothing, don't rule him out of your love life due to his first appearance, instead look at his inner being to find a compatible partner. You will get an unexpected visit from someone close to you this month.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Applying to ATI Woburn will be a smart move, because your SAT scores were lower than your bowling average. A little dab will do you. Small things come in big containers. A Gemini will be a good investment.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Attractive women are on the loose. The rise and fall of a king. Don't worry about your possessions for awhile because trouble is out of town.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19 to Mar. 20) If you've read this far than you have no social life, because there is not much to say. Enjoy time with your loved one because stealing is becoming a popular habit. Good luck in the future and being a kid can only last so long.





# FEATURES

Issue 1

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October 26, 1992

## Economy #1 Political Issue; Abortion is Second

by Phil Nazzaro

The economy is the subject that weighs heaviest on the minds of the ORHS student body, according to a poll recently conducted by the Mouth of the River. The poll, conducted the week of September 28, was of approximately 100 students within all four class levels.

75% of the students polled cited the economy as an important issue, in this election year. Abortion came a close second, with 67% of the student body seeing it as an

important issue. On the opposite end of the spectrum, the issues the students see as least important are a candidates character and a candidates personal history. These issues were seen as important by 23% and 15%, respectively.

8% of the student body did not realize that President George Bush was the Republican nominee for president. Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton was not known as the Democratic nominee for president by 10% of those polled.

A greater number of people

did not know the candidates for governor of New Hampshire. 41% of the student body did not know Arnie Arnesen is the Democratic candidate for governor. The least known candidate was Steve Merrill, the Republican for governor, 63% of those polled did not know who he was.

The final issue raised by the survey was party affiliation. With 48% of the student body saying they support the Democratic party, they are the party favored by most ORHS

students. The Independents were the second most cited group, with 26% of the student body not affiliating with any organized political party. The Republicans followed with 20% of those surveyed affiliating with the G.O.P. The Libertarians, Socialists, and Communists all received 2% support.

In response to the survey results, regarding the percent of students who know the national candidates, senior Mark MacBeth reacted, "There is an overabundance of

ignorance in the world." A sophomore, who didn't want their name revealed, said, "I can't even begin comprehend the ignorance within this school (when it comes to national politics)."

In response to the high percentage of people who sighted abortion as an important issue, junior Neil Bostrom commented, "It's not the governments place to decide whether or not someone should have an abortion."

### Key:

Eco - Economy  
Abt - Abortion  
Tax - Taxes  
HC - Health Care  
Def - Deficit

IS - International  
Strength  
FT - Free Trade  
FV - Family Value

CCh - Candidate's  
Character  
CPH - Candidate's  
Personal  
History

## Trends at Oyster River

by Chris Hansen and Tammy Collins

Students at ORHS can be observed sporting the latest in fashion and the trends. Walking through the halls, one can see the many styles shown off by the students.

In the halls of ORHS students can be seen wearing much of the same type of clothing. Plaid flannel shirts and hats are the most obvious trends seen here. Freshman Laurie McDowell said, "Plaid is rad." Almost everyone can be seen at one time or another wearing a flannel shirt. Many guys can be spotted wearing baseball caps. A common accessory to the hat is usually a piece of gum on the rim.

Footwear is also commonly a fashion statement and used for function. Taking a look down the hall, one can notice students wearing either boots (combat & work), Chuck Taylors (high & low), Adidas (Sambas & Gazelles), Teva sandals, Birkenstocks, Vans, Doc. Marten's, Keds (and various look-a-likes), and Nike/Reebok type sneakers. Junior Dan Gerard when asked

about the fad of shoes commented, "I think plaid Chucks are a classic in the making."

College apparel and leather jackets are also frequently seen throughout the school day. Anything military issue is another hot item to wear. Junior Hunt Howell has his own idea of style and said, "I like wearing my mothers non-stylish blouses and clogs and make them stylish in my own special way."

A lot if not most apparel is function or interest related. Christian Pinto commented, "In Brazil, you wear a uniform to school every day. You always dress nice." Styles are influenced by the music one listens to or a sport one plays. Athletes can be usually spotted by wearing Adidas, Nike, Reebok, etc. sneakers and other athletic apparel. College apparel is very commonly seen on those into rap music. And some things are just universal like flannels and hats. Sophomore Sarah Varney said, "Anything goes." Sophomore Scott Spielman agreed and commented, "Wear what you want."

by Chris Hansen & Tamara Collins

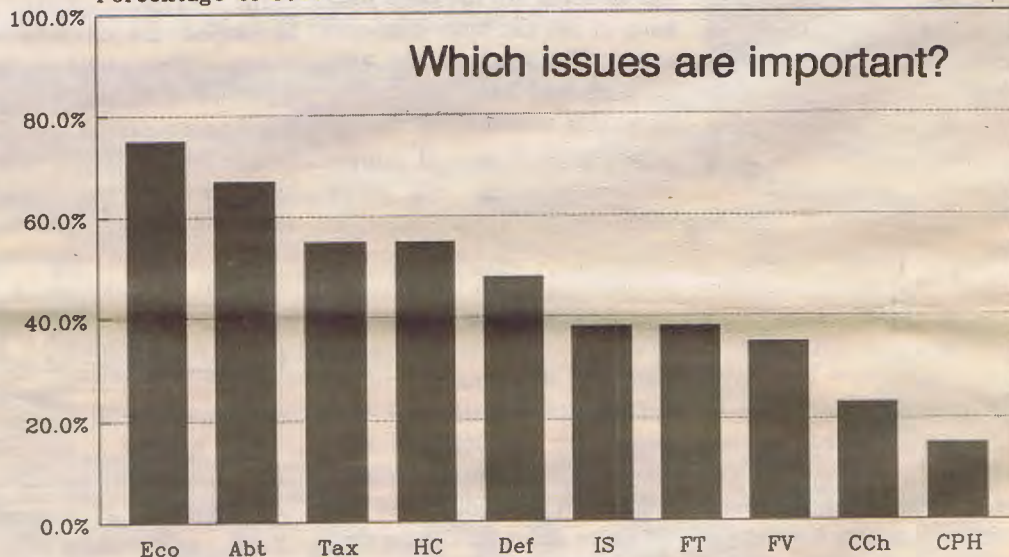
### Upcoming Events at Oyster River High School :

- 10/27 Girls Volley Quarter Finals
- 10/30 St. Council Halloween Party 7-9 p.m.
- 11/3 NH elections
- 11/6 Sophomore Dance
- 11/10 French achievement test
- 11/11 Veterans day
- 11/13 CHAIN
- 11/17 Assembly, fall play after homeroom
- 11/18 Fac. Meeting; Short Wed.
- 11/19 Fall Play
- 11/20 Fall Play; Music all state auditions
- 11/21 Fall Play; Music all state auditions
- 11/26 No School
- 11/27 No School

### Upcoming Concerts :

- 10/30 Velocity girl, tt the bear 18+ Stereo lab,
- Faith healers & Moonshake
- Nov. WUNH Music Marathon
- Nov. UNH HARDCORE FEST

Percentage of Students



## OR Music Survey

by James Walsh

Walking through the halls of ORHS one can see quite a cultural experience. Inside lockers are pictures, posters, clothing, and other oddities, but something that varies the most in ORHS is the music the students listen to.

During the week of Sept. 20th a survey was conducted at ORHS to try and find the music interests of the student population. Students were asked questions about what genres of music and what radio stations they listen to. Genres varied from disco and vocals to alternative and punk.

Out of thirty different genres, twenty seven were polled as being commonly listened to. Fifteen students from each class were polled to find their favorite music. Steady trends were found throughout all the classes. The alternative genre dominated over all in three out of the four classes with rock in a nearby second and classic rock, such as the Grateful Dead and

Pink Floyd in third.

The senior class was the most diverse in all of the TREND, with Reggae, rap, genres with alternative in the classic rock, and classical lead with 18% and rock with interspersed among the 10% of the seniors votes. The students choices of music.

seniors and the sophomores seem to have the largest listening range with eighteen genres mentioned. The juniors mentioned sixteen varied tastes, and the frosh with less diversity then all the classes with fourteen types of music.

With school on everyone's minds students still find time to listen to and diversify their tastes in music. Alternative music, such as the Cure, Blake



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# SEX at Oyster River

by Seth DeForest & Owen Bruder

Sex among teenagers in the 90's has become a hot and popular topic even here at Oyster River. Throughout a survey conducted in our school it has been discovered that public displays of affection are becoming a bigger part of all our lives. The survey shows statistics suggesting a desire for sex as long as it is safe and involving the intelligent and equally responsible partner.

Forty-eight students were interviewed at random answering these three questions:

- 1) In your opinion is their too much public display's of affection (PDA) in this school?
- 2) When the topic of sex is mentioned do sexually transmitted diseases scare you?
- 3) Do you believe that pre-marital sex is immoral?

The results on the first question were, 79% of the students interviewed said that there are not too many public displays of affection in our school. 21% thought there is. The principal, Ms. Brown replied on the topic saying, "I only wish that students would show more decorum and modesty around school." Also going on to say, "I am not upset with PDA right now, but no one has found their liasons yet." Students like Freshman

Ben Billador feel that "unless you go looking for it your not just going to find it." However, students like Sophomore Ryan Bellabona, feel that, "it is surprising with all the couples in our school more students aren't doing it." Junior Lori Andersen says, "PDA can go to a certain extent, and it has improved greatly in the last couple years, however fondling between two people is where the line should be drawn." PDA is highly debated issue but for right now it seems to be very much under control.

Answers to the question involving pre-marital sex showed these results; 83% of the people asked find STD's to be the frightening factor. Seventeen percent say that STD's are not one of their main concerns. According to Junior Tucker Katz, "STD's should scare everyone and if they don't than you aren't ready to have sex." Tucker, like most people in our school find these diseases to be a factor when considering sexual behavior. Senior Sarla DeGeorge agrees explaining that "STD's should be a big factor when having sex, and diseases are very much a reality." The small percent of students that aren't frightened by STD's need to pay more attention to sex and its consequences.

The question of pre-marital sex is one constantly debated in our society. These were the feelings of some of your fellow classmates; 90% of the students interviewed feel that they are ready for sexual intercourse before getting married. As substitute teacher Mrs. Henry responded "pre-marital sex is going to happen, but people need to be selective and intelligent when choosing to do so." Students opinions tend to be alike on this topic as seen through Senior Mike Johnstons' comment; "when considering pre-marital sex people should be serious about the relationship." Sarla DeGeorge shares her feelings on the topic saying "Pre-marital sex can be just as wonderful as post-marital sex, and when your in love sex can't be wrong at any age."

Mr. Tappan says "Kids feel the need to be perceived as sophisticated by their peers. However, intimacy is private and if real love is there then they would keep it that way." Defending the students side is Darren Miller and Hunt Howell saying "It's natural for kids our age, and birds do it, bees do it, so sometimes we do it." No matter what anyone says or thinks, it looks like sexuality at Oyster River is here to stay.

AS  
WE  
SEE  
IT

## It's Only Tradition

by Candy Olsen

personally.

The ritual of initiating about this? Well in talking to freshman at Oyster River High the teachers they believe it's School has become a tradition natural for the upperclassmen that looks like it's here to stay. to feel invaded. Although they

So what's so bad about the also feel some of the extreme freshman that everyone needs actions are uncalled for. to pick on them. Well after Examples of this would be: talking to a few of the pushing pennies, head dunking upperclassmen I believe I have in the toilets, and wedgies. a better grasp on why. Many While talking with Mrs. of the upperclassmen- feel Reeves, the school nurse, I invaded, like the freshman just found she believes that in the come in and took over. They time she has been here also believe that the freshman freshman in the past couple of come in here thinking they years including this years have know everything. Of course become more mature. She the, upperclassmen feel they finds they also have a lot more have a lot to learn. As Angie to say, and aren't exactly shy. Sklarski say's "we need to let Another teacher with whom I them know who's boss". spoke to was Mrs. Kishbaugh.

Well as we all know you She says, "you should treat must be a freshman before you people how you want to be become a senior. This means treated."

Then there's the freshman themselves. How do they feel about all of this? Well some feel comfortable. Then there's the others. One freshman describes the feeling of being a freshman like this. "I don't really like being a freshman because they treat us like baby's." Then there's others like Jim Drake who feel fine about being here but thinks the harassment of freshman is uncalled for. Nate Bean another freshman had this to say. "It's natural, when I feel "we got it so we have to give it back." As a result too." freshman don't take it

## Are Drugs a Problem?

by Colleen O'Day

In a recent survey of forty Oyster River students 70% of the Senior class, 80% of the Junior class, and 30% of the Sophomore class have experimented with drugs. According to the survey, no one in the Freshman class has used illegal substances. When asked about the results of this survey, Junior Caleb Brown commented "Everybody's got to try something once."

The majority (44%) of those suveyed have used only one type of drug, while one student said they have experimented with six. According to the survey, 67% of the Juniors surveyed have used more than one type of controlled substance, compared to 57% of the Senior class.

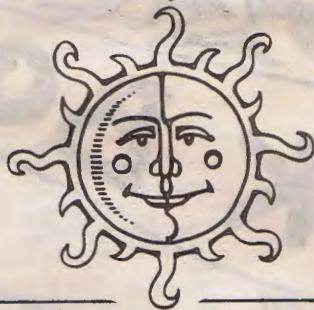
Out of the forty students surveyed, 70% felt that Marijuana should be legalized, while 27.5% said no and 2.5% didn't have an opinion. The majority of people who disagreed felt that the substance is harmful to the individual user. Senior Joe Burke said "I believe that it is okay to legalize Marajuana for terminally ill patients. However, I don't believe it should be legal for the general

should be legalized. Junior Jen Garvey stated "It being illegal doesn't matter. People will do it no matter if it is legal or illegal."

The majority of the students asked (62.5%), felt that Oyster River does not have a drug problem, while 35% of the students felt that the school does indeed have a drug problem. Mr. Knight commented on the school's drug problem, "I don't think the school has a problem, I think the individuals doing the drugs have the problem."

Principal, Ms. Brown commented on the drug use in the school by saying "It is illegal and dangerous, and we've done an incredible amount of education about drugs and their harmful effects. It is really too bad if people

can't find better things to do than substance use and abuse in their social activities." The school system does not incorporate the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Rehabilitation Education) program into the curriculum. According to Al Elwell, the assistant-superintendent of schools, "We've looked at the D.A.R.E. program and compared it to our own health program, and ours is more comprehensive and extends throughout the entire school system."



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# Drama Council Elects Members

by  
Mark DeRocchi and Joe Burke

The names of members of the Performing Arts council were announced Tuesday Oct. 27. The council consists of 10 members, 6 from the senior or junior classes and 4 from the freshman or sophomore classes. A president of the council will be elected from the membership.

The purpose of the council is to help in the run of the drama program. These responsibilities are decision on senior plays, recruiting and training people, "Lobbying" for support of the drama program, the selection of the plays, and support to the on going production.

The council is made up of students from the four classes. The senior class has the largest representation, with 4 members and one alternate. The council members are Gabe Brown, Jessica Surdam, Joe Burke and

Amy Ulrich. Owain Harris is the alternate and will vote if any senior is absent.

The juniors had one member apply, Kasey Evans. To compensate for the low number of juniors, the senior membership was increased.

The freshman and sophomore classes are each represented by two members for each class. Lindsay Oakes and Larissa Crockett are from the sophomore class and Robyn

Jerard and Ben Rous represent the freshman class.

The council was designed to support the drama but not be the "Drama Club". People don't need to be on the council to be in Drama.

Mr. Tappan's philosophy is "Drama shouldn't be a closed group. You shouldn't have to be a member of the "club" to be in a play. We have enough social barriers. I don't want to create another means of exclusion."

# ROWDIES COMPLICATE SPORTSMANSHIP ISSUE

By Aaron Tyler

Recent complaints from Somersworth High School about the Rowdies may keep Oyster River from receiving the NHIAA Sportsmanship award this year, according to Mr. Nichols.

Though students and Mr. Nichols agree that the Rowdies show good school spirit, complaints have triggered actions by Mr. Nichols to restrict the actions of the Rowdies. Rowdy Bob Murphy believes, "The banning of us was a big mistake." However, Mr. Nichols felt that the problem couldn't be ignored.

Will this hurt OR's chance to win the sportsmanship award? Sophomore Chris Davis believes, "The Rowdies show good spirit and its too bad that they've been accused of showing bad sportsmanship which might hurt our school."

The NHIAA originally came

up with the award because they were tired of dealing with the negative aspects of athletics in schools. This includes the unsportsmanlike conduct of players, coaches, and fans that often resulted in arguments, ejections from games and the embarrassment of schools.

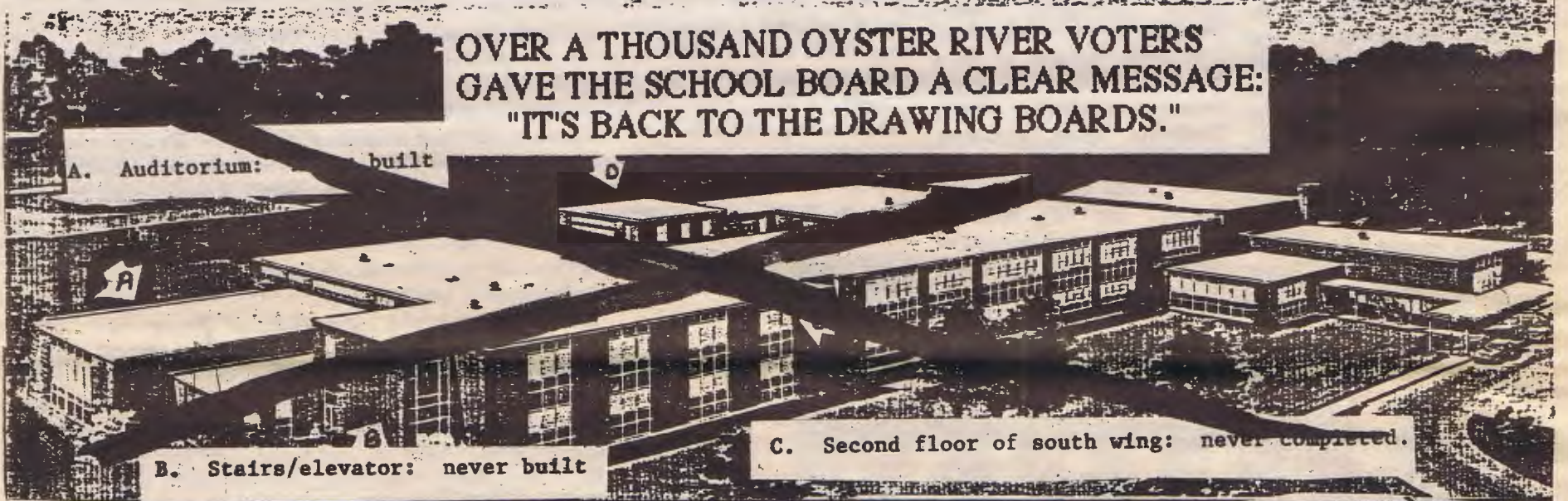
The athletic directors of each New Hampshire school may nominate themselves or another school in their class as a candidate for this award. The NHIAA Sportsmanship committee then decides on a winner based on submissions on why that particular school has the best sportsmanship.

"If I feel that our school is deserving of the award then I would consider nominating ORHS," Mr. Nichols said. He also admitted, "From time to time the Rowdies show bad sportsmanship and may hurt our chance to receive this award."

Restrictions on the Rowdies



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# PROVISIONS



# Bonfire

Cont. from p.1

the school together and it especially brought the classes closer together." Senior Ian Fitzpatrick agreed and added, "It was great seeing so many volunteers come to help rebuild the bonfire, the school really came together."

In addition to the bonfire there were numerous other activities. There was class against class tug-a-war, raffles, and music and dancing throughout the evening. Dan Gault said, "The music was great, the DJ's were great, and the seniors beat the juniors in tug-a-war."

"Not the whole night was a huge success though," Lori Andersen commented, "There was a lack of class spirit and participation," she also added, "The Junior class only had 13 people show up, and the bonfire is an event where you build class and school spirit."

Most of the students who attended the bonfire would like to see the bonfire happen in the upcoming years. Junior Matt Blasik replied, "I hope the actions of stupid people won't affect the bonfire in the upcoming years," and Donald LaFerriere added, "What happened on Thursday night was not the majority of the student's fault; so, that shouldn't affect if it does

happen in the next couple of years."

This old Oyster River tradition was new to all students except for the senior, because of being banned for the past two years. It was first banned by former Principal Geoffrey Jones and it wasn't until Ms. Brown became Principal that it was tried again. The first year that she gave her approval she described it as being "impossible to supervise." Students drove their cars right up to the fire, and there was no area marked off to keep the students away. The second year, she gave her approval, with a promise by the student council that it would be more planned out. She described that bonfire as being more in control, but when the students went inside for food and a pep rally they had started a Huge food fight. That was when the faculty and administration would not allow it because of the lack of supervisors, the dangerous situations, and not enough fire department authorities. She compared this years bonfire as being, "lots better, there were fire fighters, and even a fire truck." In the previous years the school just obtained a fire permit and didn't have either a fire truck or fire fighters.

When Andy Dumont was asked to recall the last bonfire

he replied, "The bonfire was rowdy and out of control, but it was fun." He also added, "it brought the school together." John Hill agreed and commented, "It was hard to supervise, but it was a fun and good tradition."

This year the Student Council had a plan with enough police, teacher, and parent chaperones, a marked off area, had it under the fire codes, and at an earlier time. Nicole Bellabona and Chuck Bryon presented this plan of guidelines to the faculty who approved it. Gabe Wallman commented, "Student Council had a great plan, with enough chaperones, and that is probably why the faculty allowed the bonfire again."

When Chuck Bryon was asked to comment on the bonfire he replied, "We haven't had the bonfire for two years and we at least got it back into the tradition," he also added, "There was a lack of class spirit, but a overwhelmingly amount of school spirit which is what our school needs right now."

Mrs. Brown described this years bonfire as being remarkably planned, with more students that were well-behaved.

## Open Campus

Cont. from p.5  
enforced by Principal Brown. The administration enacted our current system to try to teach students how to manage their time more wisely.

Students go to school get an education, part of that education is to learn how to manage our time effectively. The question we had to ask ourselves is which system would educate us most effectively?

Ask yourselves truthfully whether you think a system where we would tell the administrators where we are going and how long we are going to be there will really work? Are the administrators going to be able to keep track of everyone as they will leave?

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## School Const. Cont. From pg. 1

minimized. Brown stated, "There is no question that the 1994/1995 students will be impacted to a certain degree."

The principal was not too hopeful that the proposals would pass. "I'm trying to get a sense of the mood of the community. There was a hearing this past week at which everyone who spoke, spoke out against the building proposals." Brown continued to say, "Basically, their contention was that we hadn't figured out the enrollment projections correctly and that we were

making these presumptions on faulty information." Almost three hundred people came to the school board meeting that was held on Sept. 23, 1992. Brown stated that, "Maybe the people who are already in support of it didn't go to that meeting. Maybe they said, 'I already know all that, I already know how I'm going to vote so I'll stay home.'" She continued "on the other hand, maybe that was a fair and accurate

representation of the mood of the community in which case it won't pass."

If plans continue into the 94-95 school year, it would make this years' sophomores the 94-95 senior class and the current freshmen would be juniors. Sophomore Brian Chase had the following to say when asked if he would mind about the construction interrupting the school year, "I'd mind. It would disrupt our senior class mood." Freshman Krista Poole said, "It will be different. It won't have that much of an impact on me but it will have an impact on the senior class because it's their last year." Freshman Laurie McDowell added, "The senior class and freshman will be affected the most. It will be my third year, not my first or my last."

The next step in planning for the future of O.R.H.S. is "To get this passed and keep our work with the curriculum committee," said the principal.

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## Vote

Cont. from p.1

have been counted "under the 'joke total'." Northrop went on: "I'm surprised that Bush received so many votes. I voted for Perot because he knows how to handle money."

Clinton supporter, sophomore Katie Higgins, said

"Bush claims he's going to fix everything he originally messed up." Briana Campbell also supports Clinton, "He's (Clinton) young, he's smart and his wife is awesome."

On the state front the winner was Democrat Deborah "Arnie" Arnesen, with 60% of

the vote. Republican Steve Merrill received 21% of the vote. The total other percentage was 19%.

Those interviewed who voted for Merrill expressed less favor for the Republican candidate than they did dissatisfaction with Arneson. Northrop commented, "I was deeply disturbed by the mysterious and inexplicably overwhelming support for Arneson." Harter added, "I voted for Steve Merrill basically because he's not Arneson."

"It's time to get a women in office in New Hampshire." said Arnesen supporter Amy Ulrich.



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by Julie Pemberton

This past summer members from both volleyball and soccer attended the one or two week developmental sessions at various colleges.

Many students reported the camps helped improve their skills. While some students felt that the competition was not high enough. The cost of the camps ranges from \$300 to \$350 per week, for room and board as well as training. The players attended the camps to work on individual and team goals, but do these camps really help bring the team to a successful season?

Amanda McAuley, a junior JV volleyball player, went to Wesleyan College's summer camp in Connecticut with most of her teammates. She said, "It was worth it, and it helped improve my spiking."

"Camps are the reason why our program continues to flourish. The players get another two weeks to practice," said Coach Ed Sharon.

Varsity player Quincy Souza, also a junior, went to the same camp, but had a different perspective. "We were sent to a lower level camp, so the competition wasn't as high as we would have liked it to be. I feel it

was not worth the money. It was more standing around than actual physical activity."

Senior, Michelle Monroe said, "It was not very challenging. Our team did not learn as much as we could have if we went to another camp."

Maggie Jentes said, "I did not like the camp because there was not the competition I expected. It was a lot of money to spend and not get much out of it."

Varsity volleyball Coach Ed Sharon said, "The camp we went to was not a beginners camp. We just did not know the type of competition that was going to be there. It just so happened that we turned out to be a lot better than most of the teams there. It gave them confidence and skill level."

Sophomore Ryan Bellabona went to Wheaton College Soccer Dimensions for one week costing \$300. He said, "It helped in my performance, technique and tactics in the game."

Seth DeForest, a junior, went to Pantusco's Soccer Camp in Wilbraham, Mass. for two weeks. One week as a counselor and one as a student. This camp consisted of demonstrations, lectures, and different stations working on

different skills. Team aspects as well as individual skills were worked on. "It improved my overall game 100% mentally and physically," commented DeForest.

The option of camps is available to most students, but are not required. "We give the option to the students and coaches, but I can't tell one student to go to one camp and another to go to another camp," said David Nichols, Athletic Director. "In general, it's a good idea to get advice from coaches, work hard, but also have fun."



by Andy Dumont

This fall, St. Thomas Aquinas joins Oyster River on the playing fields and courts for the first time. The Catholic high school of Dover petitioned to be a Class I school. Oyster River has fallen down in size to a Class M school but maintains its Class I standing when in competition.

ORHS plays much larger schools in Class I. Whether St. Thomas will be able to handle the move is unknown. "St. Thomas will be very competitive in boys' sports but it will take a while to build up their girls' sports," said Oyster Rivers' Athletic Director, Dave Nichols. He also referred to some advantages of playing up a

Running  
Cont. from 12

won the meet in Exeter, came in ninth out of twenty-nine teams at Manchester-Derryfield, and placed third at the Bobcat Invitational."

The girls coach, Carol Gephart, who used to teach here at Oyster River is an international triathlete. She recently won a competition in Japan.

"Mrs. Gephart really inspires us to do our best," says runner Marnie Thibault.

The way each class is decided is by the number of students in each school. The letters mean "S" for small, "M" for medium, "I" for intermediate, and "L" for large.

This year, as well as next year, Somersworth, St. Thomas, Kearsage, and Oyster River will all be schools with less than 500 students yet are playing in Class I.

The changing of class positions is on a two year schedule. This year was the beginning of a two year period. The next available time to change a schools standing will be Oct. 1, 1994. Until then, all schools must remain in their class.

Oyster River has been averaging two state titles a year since moving from Class M to Class I

"The girls cross country team is equally as spirited as the boys," says runner Melissa Raskowski.

"The girls team is a very close team. We feel very comfortable with each other, and that is probably why we run so well," says member Nicole Wojick.

"Our goal this season is to make it to the New England championships," says runner Jean Crocker. "So far we have

## Athletic Council Improves Sports

by Anita Pudil

Oyster Rivers' Athletic Council and Mr. Nichols have a one main goal they are striving toward this year.

The goal is that the council hopes to raise a \$1,000 scholarship that will be donated to a chosen outstanding athlete. This athlete must show outstanding sportsmanship qualities. The athlete will be chosen by the faculty, Mr. Nichols, and the committee of the athletic council.

The council would like to help in working with the Boosters Club. The Boosters Club needs to raise money to purchase shirts for the rowdies. They would also like to help build up the image of OR being a good sportsmanship school.

Another goal is to have a few members of the council attend a leadership conference. The conference will be held in March in Merrimack, New

Hampshire. Last year approximately eleven students from ORHS attended the conference. Mike Merenda, a student that attended last years conference, said "We spoke about how to take a leadership role and show sportsmanship which goes along with being a captain."

The Athletic Council was established in 1989 by Athletic Director, Dave Nichols. Committee member, John Hill, states that "The council was developed so things can get more organized about students views on sports."

The Athletic Council's first topic accomplished in 1989 was the alcohol-drug policy for athletes. This policy states that any athlete, if found involved with drugs and/or alcohol will be dismissed from the team.

According to Ryan Bellabona, a sophomore varsity soccer player, the Athletic Council has raised school spirit tremendously and brought the school together with activities

such as pep rallies and impressive turnouts at sports events.

The money raised at concession stands and through Boosters Club jacket sales is kept in a school account, and is put toward athletic advertisements and programs distributed at games.

Topics discussed often at meetings include school spirit, sportsmanship, and committee reports about finances, publicity and leadership. The Publicity Committee, headed by Kim Golding, encourages turn outs at games by providing posters all around the school and sometimes providing a spectator bus. Members of the council will answer phones at Channel 11 Auction to "put a good word out about the committee and to make people aware of the Athletic Council."

To be appointed to the Athletic Council, which meets every two weeks, a student must participate and show leadership in one or more sports.

game at St. Thomas on October 29th, they will assure themselves of being the third ranked team in the state entering the 8 team field playoffs.

Andy Dumont speaks

over an opponent

Courtesy of David Olson)



Girl's Soccer  
Cont. from p.11

Bellabona talked about the physical play in the Stevens game and stated, "They played rough and we came back to combat that with twice the muscle."

Despite falling behind early 1-0 and trailing 2-1 at halftime to their latest victims, OR fought back to net 2 goals in

the second half and defeat Pembroke 3-2. Fearing the huge upset the 'Cats came out in the second half and netted a quick goal as sophomore Jamie Smith scored. Then, with about 18 minutes left in the contest senior tri-captain, Holly MacKay, converted on a penalty shot to give the Bobcats the win.

If the Bobcats are victorious in their final regular season



# Field Hockey Works for Wins

By Julie Pemberton

Varsity field hockey's last game vs. Sanborn on Wednesday resulted in a 4-0 loss. With the record of 2 wins 10 losses 1 tie. The record is no indication of their ability according to Coach Cathy Baker.

"This is the most talented team I have had in the last four years," said Coach Baker. "Regardless of wins or losses, I am pleased with our performance up to this date."

Captain Lizzie Firczuk stated, "We really needed to win a game for our confidence." And that's just what they did.

"We are a lot more optimistic, it is still early on in the season," said sophomore Kim Goodman. It is varsity's second season playing together as team, so the players are closer.

Junior Sarah Johnson said, "We are working a lot harder and participating more. We are more enthusiastic than last year. Everyone is backing each other up. The positive reinforcement really helps."

A junior varsity team was created last year in order to give the younger players

experience before playing at the varsity level. According to many players it has helped a great deal. Brandy Hoover said, "JV has helped because it gives the younger players more time and experience,

whereas it gives varsity more practice with a relaxed atmosphere." The creation of a JV team allows everyone fair playing time in the games.

Molly Capron, a captain on varsity said, "We are doing much better this season, then in past seasons. We are playing much better as a team." The organization of the leagues has changed so the field hockey team is playing ten new teams this season.

According to team members, spirit and enthusiasm are high and both varsity and JV have had a challenging season.

The varsity field hockey team coached by Cathy Baker consists of Liz Burger, Molly Capron, Sarla DeGeorge, Liz Firczuk, Rebecca Givan, Michele Issokson, Charlotte Berndtson, Brandy Hoover, Sarah Johnson, Melissa Waleryszak, Jennifer Alford, Kate Crawford, Meg Frazer, Kim Goodman, Meadow Lang, Amanda Richmond and Molly Welch.



Lizzie Firczuk battles two opponents for the ball.

## JV Sports: A Step Away From Varsity

by Anita Pudil

According to interviews with several JV team members, the junior varsity program is necessary to build strong varsity teams. They feel that the program builds their skills up to the varsity level and improves team togetherness and unity.

Sophomore Amanda Richmond, a JV field hockey alternate, states: "Winning to us is not as important as playing together, but above all, we want to have fun."

JV sports help the players understand the emphasis of working as one unit, and how

important because it doesn't. There are 68 students count in NHIAA standings participating in the fall JV Others think it works them up program and 69 students to varsity potential where the playing on varsity teams. No record counts.

Freshman Brian teams in addition to the JV Tagliaferro, a JV boys' soccer program. In all 28% of Oyster player, commented on the River students are in ability to play varsity as a interscholastic sports in the freshman. "If I can compete at fall.

their level and get average playing time, then I'll do it."

Field hockey, soccer (boys and girls), girls' volleyball, cross country have JV programs. Boys' volleyball does not have a JV program at this time. Volleyball is the only high school sport without a feeder program at the middle school level.



## Girls Varsity Soccer

By Gabe Wallman

Following a tough come from behind 3-2 victory over Pembroke the OR Girls' varsity soccer team heads into their final game of the season against St. Thomas ranked third with a record of 11-2-2.

The Bobcats have played with much steadiness and consistency throughout the year with their only losses coming to perennial powerhouse Hanover 3-0 and Souhegan 2-0. In addition the 'Cats tied Kearsage 1-1 and Stevens 0-0.

The Bobcats played their most inspirational game against arch rival Stevens under the lights in Claremont. The contest was played with great

intensity and as a result their was extremely physical play on both sides of the ball. Led by senior tri-captain Liz Fernald the Bobcats had numerous scoring opportunities. And when Stevens was on the attack sophomore goaltender Kim Eddy turned shots away time and time again.

On the Stevens game senior tri-captain Holly MacKay said, "It's the best game we've played all year and it brought the team together." She continued to talk about the teams playoff chances and stated, "If we play like we did in the Stevens game their is no stopping us in the playoffs." Senior tri-captain Nicole

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Holly MacKay and Jaime Smith

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## Girls Volleyball: High Hopes for State Title

by Todd Whitford

The girls' volleyball team defeated Milford 15-1, 15-7 in the first game of the playoffs. At press time, the team was slated to play Exeter at Pinkerton Academy on Thursday night. Victory against Exeter would place the Bobcats in the finals.

The team won the state championship three times, 1983, 1989 and 1991. It is rare for a team to win the state championship two years consecutively.

With a 15-1 record, two tournament playoff wins and the State Championship Title under their belts, many people would expect the girls' varsity Volleyball team to rest on their laurels. But these girls just keep on trying to get better.

Having lost 4 players, the team had to adjust to having new, inexperienced players take over. But according to captain Stefany Shaheen, the new players "work harder than an overconfident senior". Sara Weidhaas, who is sidelined temporarily due to an ankle injury, thinks that the new player are stronger than the old players who left, but they lack experience. The new varsity players are Michelle Monroe, Ambre Proulx, Maggie Jentes, and Jillian Downey. There are two freshmen alternates (play on both Varsity and JV teams)

Amy Howell and Jessica Houle.

The key to the team's success, according to Stefany, is the fact that they work together like a family. "If someone makes a mistake, we just say 'You'll get it next time,'" she explains. They also don't let their past victories get in their way. "We want to prove that we deserve the title," says Stefany. Sara says that they do get a confidence boost from being Champs.

When asked about whether the Rowdies, the ORHS "Cheering Squad", help or hurt their games, both ladies responded positively. "They try to have a good time, and they're devoted to the team," says Stefany. "They are nice to have, but we don't play the game for them," says Sara.

Eight of the players played on summer Junior teams, including Stefany, Sara, and Junior Quincy Souza. According to Stefany, the teams are a learning experience, and it is interesting to play against some of the best players in the country. However, there wasn't the same friendly, family attitude. "It was very impersonal, not united," explains Stefany.

The team's goals for the end of the year is to hopefully to be able to wear the State Champ crown once again. The Bobcats begin their fight for the title on October 27, at 4:00pm in the OR gym.



## Cross Country Runs towards State Title

by Jill Sweet

According to runner Phil Nazzaro "the boys cross country team's chance of winning Class I and making it to the New England Championships is as close to being guaranteed as possible."

Leading the boys through a strong season are seniors Russ Warren, Mike Northrop, Kyle Krouse, and Eric Harter says JV runner Brian Cushing.

Because most of the top runners this year are seniors, the question arises will the team fall apart next year when

the senior runners graduate. Coach Bob Byrnes says that the team will have to recruit people, and get new runners interested. He feels by maximizing the members they have now, they can keep the team standards up.

"One of the boy's high points this season was a win at the Small School Championships," reports Byrnes. "We beat out all other teams by over one hundred points."

Team captain Eric Harter feels "the team is competing so well because of their hard

work and strong team unity."

Runner Brian Cushing says their attitude of taking one meet at a time, helps them to keep focused on their competition.

Runner Neil Bostrom says that this team is one of the strongest Oyster River has ever had. Coach Byrnes feels the teams success has come from a stronger sence of compitition. He says his runners are more mature this year in terms of training then they have been in the past.

Running  
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## BSOC: Despite Talent, Lack of Wins

By Gabe Wallman

With hard luck resulting in many tough losses the or Boys' soccer team has stumbled to a disappointing 3-10-2 record and are out of the playoffs with only one game remaining.

According to first year head coach Mike Ablowich OR has cotrolled all their games with the exception of the Souhegan, Milford, and Hanover games. He went on to say that the team has outhustled the opponents, and had more chances but, despite this the team was unable to put the ball in the botttom of the net.

This point is exemplified by the fact that OR has lost 6 games by a single goal in addition to their two ties. The Bobcat trend was exemplified in particular when the 'Cats took on Kingswood, a team with considerably less talent. In this gane OR completely controlled the game for the first 15 minutes of the game, however time and time again they failed to convert

opportunities. When Kingswood finally got their first opportunity to score they netted a goal. Despite controlling the rest of the game they still left with a disappointing 2-1 loss.

The Bobcats showed in a recent game with fifth ranked Sanborn their capabilities as a team. In a hard fought battle with the Indians the game ended in a scoreless tie. What the game lacked in scoring it certainly picked up on in action, as both teams had numerous opportunities to net goals. OR goalkeeper Mike Merenda gave the 'Cats a solid game in goal saving 2 or 3 sure goals.

Despite the tie Bobcat junior Tucker Katz showed his pleasure to how OR played and stated, "Our potential was brought out in the Sanborn game. We showed people that we had the capability to play with anyone in the state."

Following the Sanborn game OR took on the Saints from St. Thomas, a game the 'Cats desperately needed to pull out a win to keep their chances

alive to qualify for the playoffs. If that was not enough to get up for the game, the two teams have quickly formed an intense rivalry with one another.

The game was marked with great intensity and physical play, with tempers getting fired up numerous times. To OR's dismay STA was able to convert on a rebounding shot midway through the first half. What seemed to be a harmless direct kick turned into disaster just 3 minutes later. As the ball was kicked into OR's box a defender inevertantly stuck his hand out and hit the ball. The result was a penalty kick and a 2-0 lead for STA.

On the game with St. Thomas senior tri-captain Chris Jerard commented, "We played with great intensity and fire. The 2 quick goals were back breakers." Jerard went on to reflect on the season and said, "It is extremely frustrating to see how much talent this team has, but yet we still don't have the victories."



Members of the Bobcats  
Celebrate After Goal